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Speech to the 2012 Democratic National Convention

September 4th, 2012

Remarks as prepared for delivery

Greetings from Maryland; home to the #1 public schools in America for four years in a row¹!

Since the first days of the American Revolution, Maryland has been called “The Old Line State,” because of this true story of a group of soldiers called the Maryland Line – immigrants and native born, black and white² – volunteers all.

It is August 27th, 1776 – two months since our Declaration of Independence. Outnumbered and surrounded, Washington’s Army is about to be crushed forever at Brooklyn Heights. The British are closing in.

With America’s future hanging in the balance, word is passed up and down the Maryland Line, “fix bayonets, we’re moving forward.”

And they do. Into the breach.

They hold off the British just long enough for Washington’s Army to escape and fight another day.

Today, there is a plaque over the mass graves of those citizen soldiers. It reads, “In honor of the Maryland 400, who on this battlefield, saved the American Army³.”

In times of adversity – for the country we love – Maryland always chooses to move forward.

Progress is a choice. Job creation is a choice. Whether we move forward or back, this too is a

choice.

That is what this election is all about!

Democratic governors, with the support of our President, are leading their states forward – putting job creation first, balancing budgets, protecting priorities, making the tough decisions right now, to create jobs and expand opportunity.

Together, with President Obama, we are moving America forward, not back.

- With 29 consecutive months of private sector job growth⁵, President Obama is moving America *forward, not back!*
- By adding American manufacturing jobs annually for the first time since the 1990's⁶, President Obama is moving America *forward, not back!*
- By making college more affordable for millions of middle class families⁷, President Obama is moving America *forward, not back!*
- With the slowest annual spending growth of any president since Eisenhower⁸, President Obama is moving America *forward, not back!*
- And by securing the guarantee of Medicare for our seniors, President Obama is moving America *forward, not back!*

Facts are facts: No President since Franklin Delano Roosevelt in the Great Depression inherited a worse economy⁹, bigger job losses, or deeper problems from his predecessor.

But President Obama is moving America forward not back.

And now Mitt Romney and Paul Ryan say they want to take America back, and so we ask, back to what?

Back to the failed policies that drove us into a deep recession?

Back to the days of record job losses¹⁰?

Back to the days when insurance companies called being a woman a "pre-existing condition"¹¹?

No thank you.

I don't want to go back, do you?

Instead of improving public safety and public education like President Obama, Mitt Romney says we need fewer police officers, firefighters, and teachers¹².

Instead of safe-guarding our seniors, Romney and Ryan would end the guaranteed Medicare benefit and replace it with a voucher system¹³ in order to give away bigger tax breaks to billionaires.

Instead of a concrete, balanced, achievable plan to create more jobs and reduce the deficit, Mitt Romney says he will cut taxes for millionaires and raise them on the middle class¹⁴.

Instead of investing in America, they hide their money in Swiss bank accounts¹⁵, and ship our jobs to China¹⁶!

Swiss bank accounts never built an American bridge. Swiss bank accounts don't put cops on the beat or teachers in our classrooms. Swiss bank accounts never created American jobs!

We are Americans. We must act like Americans. We must move forward, not back.

My parents, Tom and Barbara O'Malley, like so many of yours, were part of that great generation that won the Second World War. Dad flew 33 missions over Japan in a B-24

Liberator. He was able to go to college only because of the GI Bill.

Our parents taught us to love God, love our family, and love our country.

Their own grandparents were immigrants. Their first language might not have been English, but the hopes and dreams they had for their children were purely American.

You see, there is a powerful truth at the heart of the American Dream – the stronger we make our country, the more she gives back to us – to our children and grandchildren.

Our parents and grandparents understood this truth deeply.

They believed, as we do, that to create jobs, a modern economy requires modern investments – educating, innovating, and rebuilding for our children’s future. Building an economy to last, from the middle class up – not from the billionaires down.

Yes, we live in changing times.

The question is, what type of change will we make of it?

As we search for common ground and the way forward together, let’s ask one another – let’s ask the leaders in the Republican Party, without any anger, meanness, or fear, “How much less do you really think would be good for our country?”

How much less education would be good for our children?

How many hungry American kids can we no longer afford to feed?

Governor Romney, how many fewer college degrees would make us more competitive as a nation?

The future we seek is not a future of less opportunity – it is a future of more opportunity for all Americans.

See the faces of your parents, grandparents, great-grandparents.

They did not cross an ocean, settle a continent, do hard, back-breaking work so their children and grandchildren could live in a country of less.

They came here because the United States of America is still the greatest job-generating, opportunity-expanding country ever created by a free people in the history of civilization!

And she still is.

Let us not be the first generation of Americans to give our children a country of less!

Let us return to the urgent work of creating more jobs, more security, and more opportunity for our people.

Together, let’s move forward, not back – by re-electing Barack Obama, President of the United States!

¹ *Education Week*. “State Report Cards 2009-2012.” Maryland’s public schools have received the highest score in the nation from *Education Week* for the past four years in a row.

² According to Maryland archives, there were seven soldiers of African descent enlisted (for which names are known) at the time of the battle: William Appleby, Nace Buttler, Charles Fenton, Francis Freeman, Francis Herd, Malcom McFee and Gim (last name unknown). Most of these are known to have survived. Gim (a drummer) may have died in the battle or fled, as the inspection a week before the battle is the only notice of him (Arch. MD 18:38). Francis Herd and William Appleby almost certainly saw action, as they were enlisted in the “Flying Camp”

battalion, which was involved in the New York campaign (Steuart – Maryland Line, 5). Fenton and McFee enlisted on 7/20/76 and 7/17/76, respectively, and may have been taken directly to New York.

³ Maryland Department of Veterans Affairs. "[Maryland 400 Monument Brooklyn, New York.](#)"

⁴ Bureau of Labor Statistics. In the past 12 months, Democratic Governors created more jobs in their states, on average, than Republican Governors- 41,500 jobs on average versus 32,800 jobs.

⁵ Bureau of Labor Statistics. Nationwide, the private sector has added jobs every month since March 2010 for 29 months of consecutive job growth.

⁶ Bureau of Labor Statistics. The American manufacturing industry lost jobs every year from 1998 to 2009. In 2010, the manufacturing industry created 109,000 jobs- the first year of positive manufacturing job growth since the Clinton Administration. In 2011, the industry created 233,000 jobs. So far this year, the industry has created 182,000 manufacturing jobs.

⁷ Since taking office, President Obama [has doubled funding for Pell Grants](#) increasing the number of recipients from 6 million to 9 million. He [created and extended the American Opportunity Tax Credit](#), worth as much as \$10,000 over four years of school, helping an estimated 9.4 million students and families in 2011. The President recently signed a new law making it easier for students to pay back their college loans- starting in 2014 new borrowers will pay no more than 10% of their disposable income and any remaining debt will be forgiven after 20 years.

⁸ Congressional Budget Office/Office of Management and Budget. Under President Obama, federal spending has grown only 1.4% annually- the smallest average annual growth since President Eisenhower. By comparison, under George W. Bush federal spending grew 7.7% annually. President Clinton averaged 3.5% annual growth, President George H.W. Bush averaged 5.4%, and President Reagan averaged 6.8%.

⁹ Willis, Bob. "[US Recession Worst since Great Depression, Revised Data Show.](#)" *Bloomberg*, August 1, 2009. The Bush recession, also known as the 'Great Recession', saw the largest decline in GDP (3.9% in the first 12 months of the recession) than in any slump since the Great Depression.

¹⁰ Bureau of Labor Statistics. When President George W. Bush left office in January 2009, the country had experienced 12 consecutive months of job losses. In November 2008, the country lost 803,000 jobs – the most jobs lost in a single month since 1949. In January 2009, President Bush broke his own record when the country lost 818,000 jobs. To date, January 2009 remains the single greatest month of job loss the country has experienced since 1949.

¹¹ National Women's Law Center. "[Turning to Fairness: Insurance Discrimination Against Women Today and the Affordable Care Act.](#)" The National Women's Law Center found that insurance carriers routinely charge men and women different premiums for individually-purchased insurance – known as gender rating. As a result of gender rating, women who purchase health insurance in the individual market spend approximately \$1 billion more a year on health insurance than if they were men. Gender rating is not an individual market phenomenon – businesses with predominately female workforces also pay significantly more for coverage. The Affordable Care Act, signed into law by President Obama in 2010, specifically eliminates gender rating and other discriminatory practices.

¹² Shepherd, Shawna. "[Romney on Obama: 'Is He Really That out of Touch?'](#)" *CNN*, June 8, 2012. In his June criticism of President Obama, Governor Romney said, "He wants another stimulus, he wants to hire more government workers. He says we need more firemen, more policeman, more teachers. Did he not get the message of Wisconsin? The American people did. It's time for us to cut back on government and help the American people."

¹³ Wyler, Grace. "[This is What Paul Ryan and Mitt Romney Would Do to Medicare.](#)" *Business Insider*, August 13, 2012. Vice Presidential nominee Paul Ryan's "Path to Prosperity" plan promises to reduce Medicare spending by giving eligible individuals the option of enrolling in a new voucher system or in the traditional "fee-for-service" system. In the voucher system, enrollees will receive vouchers to purchase private insurance policies; any payments that exceed the voucher amount will be paid out-of-pocket. The CBO estimates the new program will reduce government spending on Medicare 35-45% by 2050 compared to the current

program. This dramatic reduction will be felt by the American people though higher out-of-pocket costs, reduced access to care, lower quality of care and less investment in new technologies. [Politifact](#) agrees that calling the Romney-Ryan Medicare plan a “voucher system” is a legitimate critique.

¹⁴ Urban-Brookings Tax Policy Center. “[On the Distributional Effects of Base-Broadening Income Tax Reform](#).” August 1, 2012. The Tax Policy Center conducted an independent analysis of a tax plan featuring the tax policies proposed by Governor Romney. The Center found that, “Taxpayers with incomes over \$1 million would see their after-tax income increased by 8.3 percent (an average tax cut of about \$175,000) . . . while the after-tax income of taxpayers earning less than \$30,000 would actually decrease by about 0.9 percent (an average tax increase of about \$130) due to the expiration of the temporary tax cuts enacted in 2009 and extended at the end of 2010.” They conclude that, “any . . . income tax change that incorporates the features Governor Romney has proposed would provide large tax cuts to high-income households, and increase the tax burdens on middle- and/or- lower-income tax payers.”

¹⁵ Shaxson, Nicholas. “[Where the Money Lives](#).” *Vanity Fair*, August 2012.

¹⁶ Hamburger, Tom. “[Romney’s Bain Capital Invested in Companies that Moved Jobs Overseas](#).” *The Washington Post*, June 21, 2012.

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Statement from Governor Martin O'Malley on the Passing of Former Baltimore Ravens Owner Art Modell

September 6th, 2012

ANNAPOLIS, MD – Governor Martin O'Malley today issued the following statement on the passing of former Baltimore Ravens owner Art Modell:

"Baltimore and the State of Maryland mourn the loss today of former Baltimore Ravens owner Art Modell.

"Respected by his players and beloved by his family and Baltimore football fans, Art brought the game and spirit of football back to Baltimore. He helped reinvigorate Baltimoreans' sense of pride in their team and their City. As we prepare for another exciting season of Ravens football and Purple Fridays, let us all take a moment to remember Art and his family in our thoughts and prayers."

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Governor Martin O'Malley to Lead Economic Development Mission to Israel

September 10th, 2012

Governor announces mission following opening for Israeli company ELTA North America, which will create 100 new jobs in Maryland

ANNAPOLIS, MD – As part of a continuing effort to expand Maryland's global reach and further strengthen the State's strong business and cultural ties internationally, Governor Martin O'Malley today announced that he will lead a delegation of business, elected and civic leaders on an eight-day economic development mission in late November to Israel.



Earlier today, the Governor joined U.S. Senators Barbara Mikulski and Ben Cardin, Congressman Dutch Ruppersberger, Israel's Ambassador to the U.S. Dr. Michael Oren, Lt. Governor Anthony G. Brown, and Howard County Executive Ken Ulman at an event in Fulton to celebrate the opening of ELTA North America. The company, which leverages state-of-the-art technology from ELTA Systems Ltd., the world's 4th largest radar company and a subsidiary of Israel Aerospace Industries (IAI), announced plans to create 100 new high-tech jobs in the State.

"Progress is a choice. Job creation is a choice. Investing in innovation and growing companies, while strengthening our partnerships at home and abroad is also a choice," said Governor O'Malley. "In Maryland, we're able to attract businesses like ELTA because we believe in innovating, educating, and rebuilding our infrastructure. Together, we choose to grow the number of companies on the cutting-edge of science and discovery that call our State home."

That's why we're pleased to announce today that we will be leading an economic development mission to Israel to build on Maryland and Israel's shared strengths in life sciences, cyber and homeland security, and aerospace and defense so we can attract more companies like ELTA North America."

Israel's Ambassador to the U.S. Dr. Oren added: "Israel's innovative culture has led to groundbreaking global contributions in high-tech, medicine, and security technology, and has enhanced our far-reaching cooperation with the State of Maryland. The opening of ELTA North America in Howard County, to provide 100 new jobs to Marylanders is a brilliant reflection this partnership, and a poignant example of U.S. support for Israel being invested directly and indirectly back in the United States. We look forward to hosting Governor O'Malley's delegation, and expanding the dynamic economic synergy between Maryland and Israel."

"Israel has been called 'The StartUp Nation' and continues to excel in innovation," said Abba David Poliakoff, Chairman of the Maryland/Israel Development Center. "It's a strong market for Maryland to attract new companies and jobs, as evidenced by ELTA today. We look forward to an exciting and productive trade mission to Israel with Governor O'Malley."

While the itinerary is still being developed, Governor O'Malley is scheduled to travel to Eilat to speak at the Eilat-Eilat Renewable Energy and Innovation Conference alongside Israel's Chief Scientist Avi Hasson. He will then travel back to Tel Aviv where he will meet with Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu; host a breakfast reception for high-tech Israeli entrepreneurs; and participate in a wreath laying ceremony and tour of Yad V'Shem, Israel's Holocaust Memorial. This will be Governor O'Malley's second economic development mission to Israel, having led a delegation of business leaders there in 2008.

The Governor is also scheduled to meet with executives from ELTA Systems Ltd., one of Israel's leading defense electronics companies and the parent company of ELTA North America. Through the efforts of the Maryland/Israel Development Center and elected officials, ELTA North America opened a 7,500-square-foot space in the growing Maple Lawn area and plans to hire more staff and grow to a full service office to include electronics manufacturing. To assist with the project, the Maryland Department of Business and Economic Development approved a \$300,000 conditional loan through the Maryland Economic Development Assistance Fund (MEDAF) and Howard County is offering a property tax credit.

Nissim Hadas, president & CEO of ELTA Systems Ltd. and chairman of the board of ELTA North America spoke about his company's investment in Maryland and its plans for growth.

"ELTA is embarking on a new strategy to synergize the efforts of ELTA Systems Ltd. and ELTA North America to provide premier electronic system of system capabilities and support for the discriminating requirements and needs of our U.S. customers," Hadas said.

"ELTA's decision to open in Maryland reflects our commitment to strategic investments that expand opportunities to Maryland's highly trained workforce. We hope that these first 100 jobs are just the beginning," said Lt. Governor Brown, who leads the O'Malley-Brown Administration's economic development portfolio. "As the first Maryland elected official to meet with ELTA, I am thrilled that they've chosen to call Maryland home."

Maryland has long maintained ties with Israel, building on shared strengths in biotechnology, IT and aerospace and defense. Currently about 20 Israeli companies maintain offices in Maryland, including Teva BioPharmaceuticals, Rafael Advanced Defense Systems Ltd. and IMI Services (a subsidiary of Israel Military Industries). In 2011, Israel was Maryland's 47th largest trading partner with \$48.8 million in product exports, mostly chemicals, transportation equipment, and computer, electronic and electrical products.

The O'Malley-Brown Administration has taken significant steps to ramp up the State's international outreach. Last year, the Governor led two historic economic development missions – one to China, South Korea and Vietnam and one to India – that netted a combined \$145 million in trade and investment deals for the State and the companies that were part of

the delegation. As a result, several delegations from those countries have visited Maryland in recent months, which have resulted in additional partnerships and deals for Maryland companies.

The State has also opened a number of foreign trade offices in targeted countries, including Maryland's first Africa trade office which opened in August. In addition to Israel and Africa, the State has foreign offices in China (Shanghai), Colombia, France (Paris), Russia, South Korea (Seoul), Taiwan (Taipei), Vietnam (Hanoi and Ho Chi Minh City) and the Western Balkans (Montenegro). With the exception of the offices in China and Israel, all the State's foreign offices are opened on a contingency basis with no up-front cost to taxpayers.

Maryland's Office of International Investment and Trade works to stimulate foreign direct investment in the State, offers export assistance for small and mid-sized Maryland companies and coordinates international trade and investment missions and trade show opportunities for Maryland companies. For more information on resources available to business that want to market their products or services globally, visit www.choosemaryland.org

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Statement from Governor Martin O'Malley on Wendy Rosen

September 10th, 2012

ANNAPOLIS, MD – Governor Martin O'Malley today issued the following statement on Wendy Rosen:

"I commend the swift and decisive action taken by the Maryland Democratic Party today in demanding Wendy Rosen's withdrawal from Maryland's 1st congressional district race."

"The action taken today by the Maryland Democratic Party sends a clear message to Marylanders – we will not tolerate any violation of election laws."

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Statement from Governor Martin O'Malley on the Anniversary of 9/11

September 11th, 2012

ANNAPOLIS, MD – Governor Martin O'Malley today issued the following statement on the 11th anniversary of the September 11th attacks:

"On September 11, 2001, we told one another that we would never forget. Today and every day, we remember the men, women, and children – 68 of them Marylanders – who lost their lives 11 years ago, as well as their loved ones who still grieve for them. We remember the courage of those who risked everything to save others that day. And we pay tribute to the brave men and women who provide for our nation's defense each and every day, because freedom isn't free."



"Each and every year on this day of remembrance, we should look to our neighbors and rediscover all that unites us and has made our nation a beacon of hope and human dignity to the world."

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Governor Martin O'Malley Announces Leonard Howie as Maryland Secretary of Labor, Licensing, & Regulation

September 17th, 2012

ANNAPOLIS, MD – Governor Martin O'Malley today announced Leonard Howie as Maryland's Secretary of Labor, Licensing & Regulation. Mr. Howie previously served as Deputy Secretary for Operations at the Department of Human Resources (DHR) since November 2011.



"There's nothing more important for a family than a good job, and there is no better way to expand opportunity, to grow our economy, and to strengthen and grow the ranks of an increasingly diverse and upwardly-mobile middle class than by creating jobs," said Governor O'Malley. "We are confident in Leonard's ability to connect Marylanders with the jobs and skills they need to compete. His belief in the strength of our State's economy, and his expertise helping Marylanders navigate our safety net during tough times will serve the people of our State well. Under his leadership, Maryland will continue to grow and expand our highly-skilled, highly-educated workforce so our State can compete and win in the New Economy."

"I'd like to thank Governor O'Malley for the opportunity to connect Marylanders with the type of skills development programs that will prepare them to contribute to the security of their and our economic future," said Mr. Howie. "Working with the State's safety net programs during my tenure at DHR has provided unique and important insight into what can happen when there aren't enough jobs or when people do not have the skill sets that match the jobs that are available. I look forward to continue working in this Administration and giving Marylanders the skills they need to compete during our economic recovery."

The Governor added, "I'd also like to thank Interim Secretary Scott Jensen for his outstanding work during this transition. His insight into our knowledge-based economy has been a tremendous asset to our Administration."

Prior to joining DHR, Mr. Howie spent four and half years as the Maryland Department of Labor, Licensing & Regulation (DLLR) Deputy Secretary where he worked with previous secretaries Tom Perez and Alexander Sanchez to implement critical departmental initiatives. Mr. Howie has worked extensively within every facet of DLLR's core programs, especially those related to Workforce Development and Adult Education.

Most recently, he served as an attorney with the Office for Civil Rights at the U.S. Department of Education; as the Program Evaluations Director for the Maryland Mediation and Conflict Resolution Office; and as a Senior Consultant with the Ethics Resource Center, Inc. – a Washington, D.C.-based provider of business ethics training and consulting for Fortune 500 corporations and governmental agencies. Mr. Howie also held positions as adjunct faculty and program advisor at the University of the District of Columbia.

A resident of College Park, Mr. Howie is a graduate of the University of Cincinnati with a Bachelor of Arts in Economics. He completed both his Master of Business Administration and his Juris Doctorate at Georgetown University. He began his career as an Infantry Officer in the United States Marine Corps.

Leonard Howie will rejoin DLLR as Secretary on October 8, 2012.

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Governor Martin O'Malley Visits Biotechnical Institute of Maryland

September 18th, 2012

Governor continues "Jobs and Opportunity" Tour

Highlights skills goal and importance of training Maryland's workforce

ANNAPOLIS, MD – Governor Martin O'Malley today continued the "Jobs and Opportunity" Tour by visiting the BioTechnical Institute of Maryland, Inc (BTI) in Baltimore. The Governor highlighted Maryland's highly-skilled and educated workforce as the key to competing in a rapidly-changing 21st century economy.



"In Maryland's Innovation Economy, our greatest competitive assets are the talents, skills, creativity, ingenuity, and education of our people," said Governor O'Malley. "Thanks to innovative initiatives like the BioTechnical Institute of Maryland, we can provide Marylanders with the training and tools they need for jobs in quality control, manufacturing and other areas in an emerging industry. Together, we can continue to invest in our people and give them the opportunity to succeed and secure their economic future while harnessing and maximizing our competitive advantages as a State."

The Administration has set a strategic goal to increase the number of Marylanders who receive skills training by 20 percent by the end of 2012. [To date, the Administration has increased the number of Marylanders who have completed skills training by more than 13 percent.](#)

BTI offers tuition-free training and placement assistance to highly-motivated unemployed and underemployed high school graduate adults from the Baltimore area to prepare them for positions as skilled and reliable lab technicians. BioSTART, a 240-hour pre-training program, includes instruction in contextualized academics such as math and communication and professional development, all under the purview of the bioscience industry. Successful completers of BioSTART enter BTI's Lab Associates Program which includes nine weeks of lecture and laboratory exercises in clean room practices, cell culture techniques, FDA-sanctioned Good Manufacturing Practices and is followed by a 100 hour paid internship.



“As seen from the many successes of our graduates from the BioTechnical Institute of Maryland, our training provides not only the opportunity for a better job, but also an exciting career in the growing bioscience industry,” said BTI Executive Director Kathleen Weiss. “BTI is delighted to host Governor O'Malley and to be showcased as an example of effective workforce training and an integral component of Governor O'Malley's 'Jobs and Opportunities' initiative.”

Approximately 75 percent of BTI graduates move on to professional positions in the bioscience industry within three months of completion. Graduates have been hired by 35 organizations in Maryland; Johns Hopkins alone employs about one quarter of the BTI grads. Analysis of the long-term retention rate since 1998 shows approximately 75 percent of BTI participants are still employed in the bioscience industry or pursuing additional related education.

Established in 1998 by Dr. Margaret B. Penno, Associate Professor of Medicine and Director of the Cell Culture Laboratory at Johns Hopkins School of Medicine, BTI receives funding from many sources, both private and public including The Abell Foundation, the Annie E. Casey Foundation, The Charles T. Bauer Foundation, The Harry and Jeanette Weinberg Foundation and the Social Innovation Fund. BTI has held 25 classes and graduated 265 students from the Lab Associates Program.

With a highly-skilled and educated workforce, [Maryland has become a hub for science, technology and discovery, and a leader in the Innovation Economy](#). According to the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, Maryland ranks #1 in the nation for Innovation and Entrepreneurship, and remains one of the best-positioned states to grow, create jobs and prosper in the coming years. The Milken Institute ranks Maryland #1 for human capital capacity, and the Kauffman Foundation ranks Maryland #3 for the state's ability to win in the New Economy in the 2010 State New Economy Index.

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Statement from Governor Martin O'Malley on Preliminary August Jobs Report

September 21st, 2012

ANNAPOLIS, MD – Governor Martin O'Malley today released the following statement on the U.S. Department of Labor's release of preliminary employment data for the month of August:

"Last month, the people of Maryland created 1,400 new jobs—the best August for job creation since 2005. Our public sector led the way, creating 3,900 jobs. Together, we've recovered nearly 70 percent of the jobs we've lost during the Bush recession at a rate nearly 50 percent faster than the nation as a whole.

"Our economy is an Innovation Economy, and our greatest competitive assets are the talents, skills, creativity, ingenuity, and education of our people. That's why the U.S. Chamber of Commerce says we're the best state in the nation for Innovation and Entrepreneurship, the Milken Institute places Maryland at #1 for human capital capacity, and the Kauffman Foundation ranks us in the Top 3 for our State's ability to win in the New Economy. Together, we can continue making the modern investments a modern economy requires: educating, innovating, and rebuilding for our children's future."

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Governor Martin O'Malley Reminds Marylanders that September is Sickle Cell Awareness Month

September 21st, 2012

Event to be held at Sojourner-Douglass College Saturday, September 22

ANNAPOLIS, MD – Governor Martin O'Malley is reminding Marylanders that September is Sickle Cell Awareness Month. The Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene (DHMH) is educating employees and health care providers, and participating in community events to educate the public about the disease that affects more than 3,000 Marylanders. Sickle Cell Disease (SCD) is a genetic disorder that causes red blood cells to lose their shape, leading to many complications, including bouts of pain caused by poor blood flow, infections, stroke, lung disease and kidney disease. SCD affects mostly African Americans but also Hispanics and those of Middle Eastern and Mediterranean descent.

DHMH is celebrating National Sickle Cell Awareness Month at an awareness and education event tomorrow, Saturday, September 22, 2012 at 10:00 a.m. on the Baltimore Campus of Sojourner-Douglass College, 200 N. Central Avenue. The event will feature the national poster child and local spokesperson for Faces of Our Children, as well as local advocates and health care providers.

In 1983, the House of Representatives unanimously passed a resolution designating September as National Sickle Cell Awareness Month. For more information about Sickle Cell, resources, and a listing of community events this month, please visit the Office for Genetics and People with Special Health Care Needs web site [here](#). The Governor's proclamation can be found [here](#).

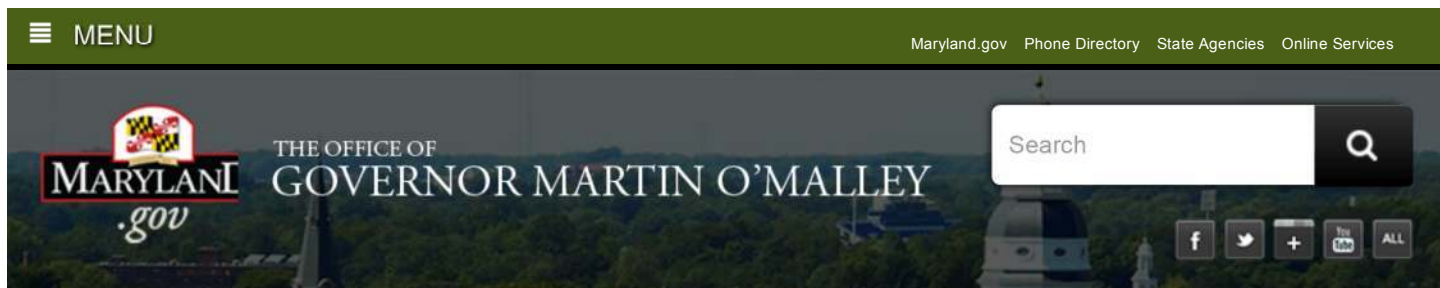
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Governor Martin O'Malley Announces InvestMaryland Challenge

September 24th, 2012

Announces first InvestMaryland investment

Governor launches \$300,000 InvestMaryland Challenge business plan competition

BETHESDA, MD – At Bethesda-based BrainScope today, the latest stop on the “Jobs and Opportunity” Tour, Governor Martin O'Malley highlighted InvestMaryland, the State's pioneering \$84 million venture capital initiative, as a prime example of why Maryland is well-positioned for success in the New Economy. The Governor also announced that BrainScope has earned InvestMaryland's first venture capital financing, and launched the InvestMaryland Challenge – a \$300,000 business competition to help identify and support new start-ups in Maryland.

Recently, the [U.S. Chamber of Commerce ranked Maryland #1 in Entrepreneurship and Innovation, and cited InvestMaryland as one of the “Policies that Produce.”](#)

“In Maryland, we choose to make the modern investments a modern economy requires: educating, innovating, and rebuilding for our children's future,” said Governor O'Malley. “We know that our greatest assets are the talents, skills, creativity and ingenuity of our people. InvestMaryland is an important part of our overall strategy to nurture the State's Innovation Economy by investing in our competitive advantages like science and technology and encouraging entrepreneurship. Our investment in BrainScope and the launch of the InvestMaryland Challenge demonstrate that we believe in aspiring entrepreneurs and Maryland's ability to compete and win in the New Economy.”

BrainScope earns first InvestMaryland investment:

InvestMaryland represents an increased commitment by the State to invest in and attract private investment for early-stage science and technology companies. [The initiative was funded by a first-of-its-kind online tax credit auction that raised \\$84 million in March 2012.](#) BrainScope, which is pioneering sophisticated neurotechnology to quickly assess Traumatic Brain Injury at the initial point of care, will receive the first \$250,000 investment from the program. The Maryland Venture Fund had previously invested \$250,000 in BrainScope.

BrainScope's portable, non-invasive devices will help military personnel and first responders more quickly diagnose and begin to treat concussions and other Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI). According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, as many as 3.8 million sports-related concussions occur each year. In addition to its applications in improving outcomes for soldiers who suffer TBI's, BrainScope's technology may also be used to assist in sports-related brain injuries.

“We are truly honored to be the first recipient of venture capital funding through

InvestMaryland,” said Michael E. Singer, BrainScope President and CEO. “Traumatic Brain Injury remains one of the very top health issues for our servicemen and women, and concussion is a national topic of concern and conversation. These funds will support the development of our medical device to help first responders assess head-injured patients. We thank the State of Maryland, in particular the Maryland Venture Fund, the Department of Business and Economic Development and the Governor, for their support as we work to develop these important products.”

InvestMaryland Challenge offers three \$100,000 top prizes for innovative new businesses:

While touring BrainScope, Governor O'Malley also announced the first InvestMaryland Challenge, a \$300,000 business competition designed to fuel entrepreneurship by connecting seed and early-stage businesses with mentors, venture capitalists, potential investors, and business resources like incubator space and legal services. The Challenge will offer three top prizes of \$100,000 each to the most promising submissions in three categories: Information Technology (hardware or software); Life Sciences; and a general/open third category. Inc. Magazine has signed on as a national media partner for the InvestMaryland Challenge.

“Inc. is pleased to be the media partner of the InvestMaryland Challenge,” said Eric Schurenberg, Editor-in-Chief of Inc. “We at Inc. are always delighted to be part of an effort to put capital in the hands of entrepreneurs, helping them do what they do best: inspire, innovate and leave the world better than they found it.”

“We’re proud that InvestMaryland will fund many new and growing businesses like BrainScope,” said Christian S. Johansson, Maryland Secretary of Business & Economic Development. “But the Challenge also gives us a way to identify, celebrate and encourage the State’s thriving entrepreneur community.”

The InvestMaryland Challenge is open to legally-organized businesses with fewer than 25 employees and annual revenues of less than \$1 million. The IT and Life Sciences categories are open only to Maryland-based companies; companies outside Maryland may compete in the general category but, if selected to receive the top prize, must be willing to locate their business to the State.

Business leaders from successful companies throughout Maryland will judge the entries, which must be submitted by completing a comprehensive application online at InvestMarylandChallenge.org. The deadline for submissions is December 13, 2012. Finalists will be invited to present their ideas in face-to-face interviews with industry-specific judging panels in late February 2013, and Governor O'Malley will announce the winners in March. Complete details are available at InvestMarylandChallenge.org.

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ABOUT INVESTMARYLAND: Overseen by the Maryland Venture Fund Authority, InvestMaryland is an \$84 million venture capital initiative. InvestMaryland funds, which were raised by auctioning premium tax credits to major insurance companies, are apportioned through venture capital firms (67%), the Maryland Venture Fund (24.75%) and the Equity Participation Investment Program (9.25%) for investment in Maryland-based software, IT, cybersecurity, communications, life sciences, or green technology companies with fewer than 250 employees.

ABOUT BRAINSCOPE®: Backed by Revolution LLC (created by AOL co-founder Steve Case), Alafi Capital, Brain Trust Accelerator Fund, Draper Fisher Jurvetson, Portage Ventures and ZG Ventures, BrainScope is a medical neurotechnology company that is developing a new generation of hand-held, simple-to-use, non-invasive instruments designed to aid medical professionals in rapidly and objectively assessing brain function. BrainScope devices in development are based on a proprietary technology platform, which integrates databases of brainwave recordings with advanced developments in digital signal processing, sophisticated algorithms, miniaturized hardware and disposable headset sensors. BrainScope’s initial focus

is on traumatic brain injury (TBI) and its milder forms known as concussion. BrainScope's unique device is being developed to meet a long-standing clinical need for improved early identification, staging and triage for head-injured patients. BrainScope devices under development for use in the United States for assessment of traumatically-induced head injury and concussions are for investigational use only and have not been submitted to FDA for premarket review. For more information, visit www.brainscope.com.

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Statement from Governor Martin O'Malley on Retirement of Delegate Justin Ross

September 27th, 2012

ANNAPOLIS, MD – Governor Martin O'Malley today released the following statement on the retirement of Delegate Justin Ross:

"Justin has been an outstanding member of the Maryland House of Delegates. A tireless advocate for Prince George's County, he fought so that every child can have a quality education. Justin's leadership helped us pass marriage equality in Maryland, and his commitment to creating a better future for everyone will have a lasting impact in our State. We wish him all the best in his future endeavors."

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